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CLASSIFICATION

CIAVUHSS

MESSAGE PREFERENCE NUMBER

SOURCE REF:

IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR FAZIO-TO: STATE RCI//OPERATIONS CENTER MR FRY, NMCC//ATTENTION

CIA REPAIREASURY DEPT//INFO FOR

25X1

WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS

INVOLVED

ITEM NO:

DATE: 27 DECEMBER 1974

SUBJECT:

THAT CABINET ORDERS ARREST OF THANOM

REF

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PRIME MINISTER THANON, WHO FLEW INTO BANGKOK FROM THE US EARLY THIS MEORNING. IS UNDER ARREST. DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PRAKOB TOLD NEWSMEN THAT THANOM WILL BE TRIED IN COURT FOR HIS ROLE IN THE RIOTS THAT TOPPLED HIS GOVERNMENT A LITTLE OVER A YEAR AGO. ARMY STRONGMAN KRIT SIWARA, WHO IS ON A GOODWILL VISIT TO THE 4 PHILIPPINES, HAS BEEN ORDERED TO RETURN TO BÄNEGKOK.

THANOM'S PRESENCE COULED BRING THE STUDENTS, WHO HAVE BEEN EQUIET OF LATE, BACK INTO THE STREETS. THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT STUDENT LEADERS ARE ATTEMPTING TO ORGANIZE A PROTEST DEMONSTRATION. SHOULD IT MATERIALIZE, IT COULD CAUSE A SERIOUS SECURITY PROBLEM FOR THE GOVERNMENT. THE ARMY AND POLICE HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR AN EXCUSE TO CRACK DOWN ON STUDENT DEMONSTRATORS FOR SOME TIME.

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